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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Forman et al )  
Serial No.: 09/590,447 )  
Filed: June 9, 2000 )  
For: METHODS FOR )  
MODULATING )  
FXR RECEPTOR ACTIVITY )  
Examiner: Hui, S. )  
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Group Art Unit: 1617

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Amendment-Fee, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Signature: Bonnie Ferguson  
Date of Signature: 10/14/2002

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action received June 18, 2002. The Office Action has been carefully considered, and Applicants have the following comments.

A clean version of the amended claims is now provided.

In the claims:

1. A method of treating a pathological condition in a mammal comprising the step of administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically acceptable composition comprising a synthetic FXR ligand able to stimulate, block, or inhibit the activity of a mammalian FXR receptor, said synthetic FXR ligand comprising a compound of the formula

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